

The Egyptians responded that Israel's failure to turn over control of Taba was a violation of the Camp David accord requirement that the entire Sinai be returned. At times, control over these few meters of sand threatened to undermine the entire Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement. With U.S. encouragement, both nations agreed in 1986 to send the dispute to binding arbitration. Two years later, French, Swiss, and Swedish international lawyers ruled in favor of Egypt.

The Taba Syndrome has not been lost on other Arab leaders.

When the late Syrian President Hafez Assad met with President Bill Clinton in Geneva earlier this year, he had the opportunity to regain virtually the entire Golan Heights for Syria in exchange for peace with Israel. Rather than taking 99 percent of the land in dispute, he held out for a return to the 1967 borders instead of the internationally recognized 1923 lines. The difference between the two was only a few meters, yet Assad determined that principle was more important than Syrian control of the land—and peace.

Similarly, the recent Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon was deemed insufficient. Once again, the border was arbitrarily drawn and did not reflect geographic characteristics. This border was drawn after the defeat of the Ottoman Empire in World War I by two lieutenant colonels—one from Britain and one from France—who trudged east from the Mediterranean leaving white-washed rocks to mark the new lines.

Needless to say, the location of the rocks has shifted since the lines were drawn in 1923, yet Lebanon risks future hostilities if its total demands are not accepted.

Similarly, Arafat and all top Palestinian leaders never have wavered from the demand that 100 percent of the West Bank and East Jerusalem be turned over to Palestinian control. Since agreeing to the Oslo accord in 1993, this rhetoric created unrealistic expectations among Palestinians and Muslims throughout the world.

Although Barak appeared willing to turn over substantial territory and even make compromises on Jerusalem in exchange for a secure peace and an end to the conflict, Arafat was unable to accept these. He could have had a recognized state comprising approximately 90 percent of the West Bank and governing authority over Palestinians in parts of Jerusalem. Most important, he could have had peace.

Arafat failed to take into account that every nationalist movement must ultimately embrace pragmatism instead of pursuing the maximum—and ultimately unobtainable—goals. By insisting on achieving 100 percent of his objectives, Arafat got caught up in the Taba Syndrome and doomed the Camp David talks to failure.

Unfortunately, this conference only served as another validation of Abba Eban's famous comment that Palestinian leaders "never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity for peace."

#### HONORING CASEY AND JEAN BROWN

##### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to acknowledge two outstanding citizens of Western Colorado, Casey and Jean Brown. Casey and Jean, through their determination and 'old fashioned' hard

work have built a reputation among Colorado's rodeo community. This dedication was recently rewarded when the couple received the Western Service Award, presented by the Durango Pro Rodeo.

Casey and Jean understand the value and benefit of working hard and this is evident in their day to day routine running their family ranch. Jean plays the dual role of mother and bookkeeper on the ranch. The tasks of her typical day range from patching up her rodeo bruised husband, to helping care for her children, to ensuring the health of the family's livestock.

Before coming to Colorado, Casey could be found behind the teacher's desk at California Polytechnic College. After moving to Colorado, Casey and Jean began the legacy of service to their community that they are now widely known for. Working as a rancher, Casey realized that many ranchers like himself needed assistance in the political arena. To aid others like himself, he served with distinction on the Colorado Wool Growers and Cattleman's Associations. In addition, he has also served on the National Public Lands Council and the Pine River Irrigation District.

The commitment of these two individuals to family and community is truly commendable. They have found that, through dedication and hard work, a person can truly do anything that the mind desires. They have made a true impact upon the community of Durango and they are clearly deserving of this prestigious award from the Durango Pro Rodeo Association.

Casey and Jean, I thank you for your commitment to helping others. The citizens of Durango are truly privileged to call you neighbor and friend. Congratulations!

#### INCARCERATION OF ZHANG JIE

##### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter for the RECORD.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, May 15, 2000.

ZHU RONGJI ZONGLI,  
Premier of the People's Republic of China,  
Guowuyuan, Beijingshi, People's Republic of China.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: We are writing to express our strong concern regarding the incarceration of Zhang Jie and to request that you urge the appropriate officials to release information related to his imprisonment and state of being.

Zhang Jie was a 23-year old unemployed worker from Jinan, Shangdong Province, when, on June 5th, 1989, he was alleged to have organized a rally and denounced the killing of protestors in Tiananmen Square the previous day. Zhang Jie was given an 18-year sentence for "counter revolutionary incitement." Jie was last reported in 1992 to be in Shangdong Prison Number 3, also known as Weifang Shengjian Machinery Works.

Given our understanding that Zhang Jie was exercising his basic right to freedom of expression—and neither undertook, nor called for, any violent action—we are seriously disturbed by the severity of his sentence. We are also concerned that those involved in international humanitarian efforts to secure his release have been unable to learn anything about his condition. This is

all the more distressful when we hear that workers such as Zhang Jie have been subjected to harsh treatment.

The American people await some sign of progress from the leadership of the People's Republic of China in the treatment of those who speak out on matters of conscience. We call on you to personally ensure that the proper authorities will cooperate and look forward to our request for information on Zhang Jie's status.

Sincerely,

Lynn Woolsey, Luis V. Gutierrez, Martin Frost, Tom Lantos, George Miller, Peter De Fazio, Juanita Millender-McDonald, Major R. Owens, ———, Nancy Pelosi, Christopher Shays, Sam Farr, Cynthia McKinney, Pete Stark, Sherrod Brown, Lloyd Doggett.

#### HONORING JOE COLLINS

##### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to commend the Honorable Joe Collins on his remarkable service as Rio Blanco County Commissioner. Joe is stepping down after serving his community for nearly 15 years as Commissioner. Joe's commitment to bettering his community has ensured that Rio Blanco County will be a better place for its citizens.

Joe is a long time resident of Rio Blanco County and truly understands what is important to his community. As commissioner, he fought to ensure the safety of western Colorado's land and water resources. Understanding the importance of serving his fellow Coloradans, Joe has also been involved with a number of different public interest organizations. Joe put his outstanding leadership qualities to use as a member of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, the Rio Blanco County Cattlemen's Board of Directors, the Local Forest Service Advisory Board, and as Chairman of both the Regional Transportation Board and the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado.

Joe, you have served your community, State, and Nation admirably, and on behalf of the State of Colorado and the U.S. Congress, I thank you. The leadership that you have given to Rio Blanco County will be greatly missed.

Good luck in your future endeavors.

#### MARRIAGE TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2000—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

##### HON. BILL ARCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 4022(b) of the Internal Revenue Service Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, I am submitting for the RECORD the complexity analysis for H.R. 4810, the Marriage Tax Reconciliation Act of 2000 prepared by the Internal Revenue Service.